

the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103 or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Claims 2, 5-10, 12, and 16, and amended claims 1 and 4 are in this application.

Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 12, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knee et al. (5,589,892) in view Strubbe et al. (5,047,867).

Amended independent claim 1 now recites in part as follows:

“recorded program information storage means for storing recorded program information **for display so as to be viewable by a user** which includes ... (iii) **recording start and end position information** of a number of programs stored in a number of recording mediums so as to provide for each recorded program information pertaining to ... **the respective start position and end position thereof on the respective recording medium.**” (Underlining and bold added for emphasis.)

It is respectfully submitted that the proposed combination of Knee and Strubbe do not specifically disclose the above features of amended independent claim 1.

More specifically, in explaining the above 103 rejection of claim 1, the Examiner stated that Knee “does not explicitly show the (ii) and (iii) part of the claim 1 limitations.” (See page 3, lines 13-14 of the present Office Action.) The Examiner then stated that Strubbe (in particular, lines 43-54 of column 8 and Figs. 13b-13f thereof) describes “recording start position information of a number of programs” (See page 3, lines 16-18 of the present Office Action.) It is respectfully submitted that such portions of Strubbe (hereinafter merely “Strubbe”) do not specifically describe “recorded program information storage means for storing recorded program information **for display so as to be viewable by a user** which includes ... recording start and end position information of a number of programs stored in a number of recording

mediums so as to provide for each recorded program information pertaining to ... the respective start position and end position thereof on the respective recording medium,” as in claim 1.

Instead, Strubbe appears to merely describe a technique for automatically positioning the tape at the beginning of a blank area and/or arranging programs in blank areas of the tape. (See, for example, lines 53-55 of column 2, Fig. 13f and lines 50-55 of column 9 of Strubbe.) Such arrangement of Strubbe does not appear to be intended “for display so as to be viewable by a user” as in the apparatus of claim 1.

Accordingly, amended claim 1 is believed to be distinguishable from the proposed combination of Knee and Strubbe.

For reasons similar to those described above with regard to claim 1, amended independent claim 4 is also believed to be distinguishable from the proposed combination of Knee and Strubbe.

Claims 2, 5-10, 12, and 16 are dependent from one of independent claims 1 and 4 and, due to such dependency, are also distinguishable from the proposed combination of Knee and Strubbe for at least the reasons previously described.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable over the prior art, and early and favorable consideration thereof is solicited.

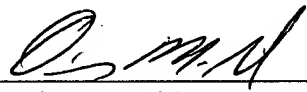
The Examiner has apparently made of record, but not replied upon, a number of documents. The Applicants appreciate the Examiner’s explicit finding that these documents, whether considered alone or in combination with others, do not render the claims of the present application unpatentable.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **“Version with markings to show changes made.”**

It is to be appreciated that the foregoing comments concerning the disclosures in the cited prior art represent the present opinions of the applicants’ undersigned attorney and, in the event, that the Examiner disagrees with any such opinions, it is requested that the Examiner indicate where, in the reference or references, there is the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response and not paid herewith to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
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“VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE.”

Please amend claims 1 and 4 by rewriting the same as follows:

--1. (Six Times Amended) An apparatus for controlling display of an electrical program guide, comprising:

broadcast program information storage means for storing, as broadcast information, the information relative to a number of broadcast programs extracted from predetermined positions of video signals;

recorded program information storage means for storing recorded program information for display so as to be viewable by a user which includes (i) program name information and (ii) recording medium identification information and (iii) recording start and end position information of a number of programs stored in a number of recording mediums so as to provide for each recorded program information pertaining to the respective program name, the respective recording medium on which the respective program is recorded, and the respective start position and end position thereof on the respective recording medium; and

display control means capable of displaying, as an electrical program guide to provide the program-related information, the program information relative to the broadcast programs and the recorded programs on the basis of the broadcast program information stored in said broadcast program information storage means and also the recorded program information stored in said recorded program information storage means whereby both broadcast program information and recorded program information are processable by a single electrical program guide function so as to enable a user to select for more than one program the broadcast

information and recorded program information associated therewith by activating the desired single electrical program guide function.--

--4. (Six Times Amended) A method of controlling display of an electrical program guide comprising the steps of:

storing, as broadcast program information, the information relative to a number of broadcast programs extracted from predetermined positions of video signals;

storing recorded program information for display so as to be viewable by a user which includes (i) program name information and (ii) recording medium identification information and (iii) recording start and end position information of a number of programs stored in a number of recording mediums so as to provide for each recorded program information pertaining to the respective program name, the respective recording medium on which the respective program is recorded, and the respective start position and end position thereof on the respective recording medium; and

displaying, as an electrical program guide to provide the program-related information, the program information relative to the broadcast programs and the recorded programs on the basis of the stored broadcast program information and also the stored recorded program information whereby both broadcast program information and recorded program information are processable by a single electrical program guide function so as to enable a user to select for more than one program the broadcast information and recorded program information associated therewith by activating the desired single electrical program guide function.--